# Activity Overview

Wonderful Words and Colourful Careers

This pack contains:

* An overview/brief for teachers using these resources
* Editable versions of a session plan and two pupil worksheets for if you need to make further differentiation for your class
* The above have also been provided in a designed, PDF format if you’re just looking for something to pick-up and run with!

About Positive Footprints

* Positive Footprints enable children and young people to discover their potential, explore the world of work and build resilience through award-winning and Ofsted recognised personal development programmes. Visit www.positivefootprints.co.uk to find out more information.

Activity

* Wonderful Words and Colourful Careers is designed so that it can be incorporated into an existing plan or delivered separately. The content provides flexibility to suit teaching preferences and the needs of your pupils. It is targeted towards small groups of Year 5 or 6 pupils as an introduction to careers related learning.
* The purpose of the activity is to contextualise knowledge about ourselves, the world of work and discover our skills and career possibilities for the future. With current research indicating that children begin to eliminate choices from a young age based on who they perceive themselves to be it’s important to broaden horizons and create a sense of curiosity for learning more about ourselves, our potential and the world of work.
* With reference to the Skills Builder Framework, pupils have an opportunity to apply the following skills during this activity: Listening, Presenting, Creativity, Staying Positive, Aiming High, Teamwork.

**Aims and Outcomes**

The aims of the activity are as follows:

* Broaden and develop vocabulary with a focus on jobs, careers, qualities and skills.
* Identify personal qualities and skills and discuss them with other people.
* Explore different jobs and link opportunities in the world of work with qualities and skills.

All pupils should be able to:

* Explain why it’s important to continually learn new ways to describe ourselves and discover opportunities in the world of work.
* Share at least 3 new jobs, qualities or skills they have discovered.
* Identify at least 3 personal qualities and skills they have.

Some pupils should be able to:

* Define what qualities and skills are whilst providing examples of how they link to new jobs they have discovered.
* Provide examples of when they have used their qualities and skills in specific situations and how one might tailor this conversation to suit a job or role.

**Advice and Guidance**

* Contact Positive Footprints to ask for additional support or ideas with regards to the activity.
* Opportunities to differentiate the activity have been included and can be further developed where appropriate. This may include grouping, use of dictionaries during activity part one and allowing pupils where English is an additional language to use words from their native language.
* Consider evaluating the impact of the activity by delivering a plenary activity (e.g. true or false game) to quickly assess learning and use the following questions to gage impact on a rating scale:
* **Knowledge.** I have discovered new qualities and skills that I can use to talk about myself positively to other people and jobs that I didn’t know about before.
* **Skill development**. The activity has helped me to develop the following skills: Listening, Presenting, Problem Solving, Creativity, Staying Positive, Aiming High, Teamwork, Leadership.
* **Attitude**. I realise there is more I can learn and discover about new jobs and the world of work that I don’t know about yet.

# Session Plan

Wonderful Words and Colourful Careers (60-100 minutes)

## Resources

* Activity Overview, Session Plan, Quiz Sheet and Pupil Worksheet.
* Computers are required if the activity is completed digitally.
* Pens, pencils, crayons, scissors and dictionaries.

**Aims**

* Broaden and develop vocabulary with a focus on jobs, careers, qualities and skills.
* Identify personal qualities and skills and discuss them with other people.
* Explore different jobs and link opportunities in the world of work with qualities and skills.

**Introduction**

Time: 10 minutes

* Welcome pupils to the session and discuss the learning objectives. Provide each pupil with a worksheet.
* Use the questions and answers on the quiz sheet to stimulate a class discussion and apply the principles to jobs and careers where appropriate.
* Ask pupils to share answers or thoughts and consider summarising by using the following points:
* **There are lots of words, jobs and careers that are left to be discovered.** It’s important that we always look to learn new words to broaden our vocabulary and find out about jobs for the future.
* **It’s important to carefully choose the words we use, understand other people’s point of view and celebrate our differences.** Positive words showcase the best version of ourselves to other people. By looking around the classroom, you will see a diverse mix of people that might like different words or jobs for different reasons. Everybody also has different skills which is needed for the world of work.
* **Using words to positively promote yourself is important for the future.** During an interview or when you are applying for a job, you might talk about your qualities and skills. It’s important that you can do this confidently and share what you are good at with other people in the world of work.

**Activity: Part 1**

Time: 20-40 minutes

* Explain how to complete the activity and provide support where necessary. Once completed, encourage pupils to share examples.
* If time permits pupils can draw a letter of choice and cut it out. They must then decorate it and inside of it, write items 1-3 for only that letter: 1. job or career. 2. quality or skill 3. personal interest, hobby or word that they like. Consider creating a display in school to showcase the outcome.

**Activity: Part 2**

Time: 20-40 minutes

Decide how you wish to extend the activity. Examples and suggestions are provided below:

* **Curriculum Links- History and Language**. Explore the development of words, communication methods and jobs in pre-historic times and eras. Discuss how some words and jobs become obsolete and how new opportunities continually emerge. Allow pupils to choose an era (past, near present or the future) and develop an advert for an important job or role for that time period and the skills and qualities relevant for the role.
* **Self-Development**- **Incredible Interviews**. Refer to the worksheet and ask pupils to identify their qualities and skills. Create a mock interview scenario where pupils can talk about their qualities and skills and think about examples of when they have demonstrated them in an age-appropriate way.
* **Careers- Employer Engagement**. Invite an employer into school or watch a selection of videos that provide an insight into different careers. Ask pupils to think about the qualities and skills used in such roles. Pupils must then choose one of the roles from their worksheet and apply for it by writing their own letter. Provide top tips and encourage them to use words from the activity where appropriate.

**Conclusion**

Time: 10 minutes

* Review the aims of the session, learning outcomes and consider delivering a plenary activity.
* Close with an activity that pupils can complete following the session to embed or reinforce learning. This can be an activity indicated in part 2 that wasn’t delivered as part of the session.

# Session Quiz Sheet

Wonderful Words and Colourful Careers

## Questions

1. What is a word?

*Ask pupils to come up with a definition. The dictionary definition is as follows:*

*Noun. A unit of language, consisting of one or more spoken sounds or their written representation, that functions as a carrier of meaning. Words are usually separated by spaces in writing, and are distinguished phonologically, as by accent, in many languages*.

1. How many words do you think there are in the English Language?

*According to the Second Edition of the Oxford English Dictionary, there are 171, 476 words currently in use and 47,156 obsolete words*.

1. How many words does the average person know?

*Between 20,000-40,000 according to different studies*

1. How can you learn new words?

*Emphasize the idea that words are all around you; listening and learning in class, speaking to new people, reading, music, on the back of a cereal box, putting subtitles on whilst watching the television etc*.

1. Can you give an example of how one word might be positive to one person but not necessarily to another person?

*An example is sunshine or the idea of competition- one person might enjoy being in the sun whereas another person could be allergic to it and some people enjoy the prospect of competition whilst others can have a strong fear of failure*.

1. What words would you use to describe yourself positively to another person?

*Answers to focus on qualities, skills, talents, strengths, characteristics or attributes*.

Pupil Worksheet

Words are wonderful and careers are colourful! There are many different types that come in various shapes and sizes. It’s amazing how many ways there are to say positive things and jobs out there to be discovered that you might enjoy. This activity is an opportunity to discover new words and jobs, identify your qualities and skills and learn more about the world of work.

**Questions to get you thinking**

Work in small groups and try to answer the following questions:

1. What is a word?
2. How many words do you think there are in the English Language?
3. How many words does the average person know?
4. How can you learn new words?
5. Can you give an example of how one word might be positive to one person but not necessarily to another person?
6. What words would you use to describe yourself to another person?

**How to create your word zone**

Create a word zone by writing each letter of the alphabet with a space next to it. Using each letter of the alphabet, you must develop a list of wonderful words and colourful careers that contains a mixture of the following:

1. Qualities and Skills
2. Jobs and Careers
3. Personal interests, hobbies or words you personally like

If you have finished, try to find all the above for each letter of the alphabet then choose a quality or a skill on your word zone and tell us what it means and when you have used it.

Here’s an example to help you get started. For the letter A, you could choose ‘Astronomer’. This is a scientist in the field of astronomy who focuses their studies on a specific question or field outside the scope of Earth. They observe astronomical objects such as stars, planets, moons, comets and galaxies.